

Message Text

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72

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 AGR-20 TAR-02 INT-08

AID-20 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 RSR-01 /207 W

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R 121738Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1748

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS PARIS 19158

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, FR

SUBJECT: GOF REACTION TO US EXPORT CONTROLS ON SOYBEANS

REF: STATE 135419

1. IN PRESS BRIEFING FOLLOWING JULY 11 GOF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING, GOF OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN REPORTED THAT US DECISION TO IMPOSE EXPORT CONTROLS ON SOYBEANS HAD BEEN SUBJECT OF LENGTHY DISCUSSION BY THE MINISTERS. MINAG CHIRAC REVIEWED FRENCH SUPPLY SITUATION IN LIGHT OF US MEASURES, STATING THAT CURRENT SOYBEAN SUPPLIES WERE ONLY AT 50 TO 75 PERCENT OF MINIMUM REQUIRED LEVEL.

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CHIRAC SAID THAT SHORTAGE WAS PARTICULARLY ACUTE IN BRITTANY

WHERE SHORTAGE OF SOYBEANS THREATENS TO HAVE DIRECT
IMPACT ON PORK AND POULTRY PRODUCTION.

2. GOF SPOKESMAN SAID THAT MINISTERS HAD ALSO NOTED THAT PRESENT
SITUATION IN WORLD AGRICULTURE IS ONE OF SHORTAGE RATHER THAN OVER
PRODUCTION. PRESIDENT POMPIDOU AGAIN REMARKED THAT IN SO FAR AS
THE FEEDING OF FRANCE AND EUROPE IS CONCERNED THE SITUATION IS
ONE IN WHICH NEEDS CAN BE COVERED. AS A CONSEQUENCE IT IS UNTHIN-
KABLE TO DEPEND ON FOREIGN SOURCES FOR A COMMODITY WHICH
OFFERS SUCH A STRIKING EXAMPLE OF INSUFFICIENT PRODUCTION.

3. IN ADDITION, GOF SPOKESMAN REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT POMPIDOU HAD
TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF FOMIN JOBERT'S RECENT TRIP TO SAN CLEMENTE
TO TRANSMIT TO PRESIDENT NIXON A PERSONAL MESSAGE ON PROBLEM
OF SOYBEANS. SPOKESMAN SAID IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION THAT IT
COULD BE ASSUMED THAT IN THIS MESSAGE POMPIDOU HAD EMPHASIZED
THE GRAVE INCONVENIENCES FOR EUROPE IN GENERAL AND FRANCE IN
PARTICULAR OF SUCH A BRUTAL (US) DECISION.

4. SPOKESMAN SAID THAT WITH REGARD TO THE FUTURE THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO
ENCOURAGE THE PRODUCTION OF SOYBEANS OR SUBSTITUTE PRODUCTS IN
EUROPE. IRWIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS19158
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730738/aaaabbmy.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 135419
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Jan-2002 by phillir0>; APPROVED <15-Jan-2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOF REACTION TO US EXPORT CONTROLS ON SOYBEANS
TAGS: ETRD, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005